NUP is a coherent set of decisions through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors towards a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long term (UN-Habitat, 2014).

The pilot phase of the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP): “Developing NUP and Smart City Strategies in Iran” started in 2017 in collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. In the first step, the “Diagnosis Report” was prepared by the selected consultant and launched in December 2018. In the next step of NUPP, as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development and other partners and stakeholders, “the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document” was prepared and delivered in March 2022.
NUP DEFINITION AND FRAMEWORK

The current rate of urbanisation will see 5.17 billion people living in urban areas across the world by 2030 – up from 4.22 billion in 2018. Urbanisation has many features that can be leveraged to improve the livelihoods of all citizens. The National Urban Policy (NUP) is an important tool for governments that seek to manage and direct rapid urbanisation, and to tap into urbanisation’s positive effects while accommodating its inevitable stresses.

"NUP is a coherent set of decisions through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors towards a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long-term.

(UN-Habitat, 2014)

Urban planning in Iran has more than 50 years of experience. Iran’s urbanisation process presents both opportunities and challenges. In this regard, adopting NUP can help establishing a framework for the overall process of urbanisation of the country. NUP offers a platform to foster synergy, coherence, capacity development and mutual learning and exchange globally on National Urban Policy.

NUP in I.R. Iran also promotes consolidating and sharing knowledge on urban policy at the global level. It is a tool for implementation and monitoring of global urban agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda, Paris Agreement, and the Sendai Framework.

The pilot phase of the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP): “Developing NUP and Smart City Strategies in Iran” started in 2017 in collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. In the first step, the “Diagnosis Report” was prepared and launched in December 2018.

In the next step of NUPP, by receiving the approval of the Project Document and preparation of the Inception Report, preparation of the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document was pursued as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Urban Planning and Architecture Directorate of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) and other partners and stakeholders, and ultimately, the first draft of the “National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document” was delivered in March 2022.

THE MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PILOT PHASE OF THE NATIONAL URBAN POLICY PROGRAMME IN IRAN INCLUDES:

1. **ENHANCED CAPACITY OF SUB-NATIONAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND MONITOR AND EVALUATE NATIONAL URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND DEVELOP SMART CITY STRATEGIES.**

2. **INCREASED CENTRALIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS ON THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND SMART CITY STRATEGIES.**

3. **AUGMENTED OPPORTUNITY FOR KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND PEER LEARNING ACTIVITIES ON URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND SMART CITY STRATEGIES.**
Growing population: The population of Iran is about 85 million people, with the largest share of population (16.6%) living in the province of Tehran and the smallest share (less than 1%) in the province of Ilam.

Polarized urbanization: Iran has gone through very rapid urbanization in the last few decades (74.1% of the total population live in urban areas by 2016). Urban distribution is not balanced nationwide; in provinces such as Qom and Tehran, more than 90 per cent of the population live in the cities, while this proportion is less than 50 per cent in the province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

Aging population: Due to the decline in fertility, the aging index of the country shows a relatively rapid increase since 1996, and the middle age group will dominate Iran’s population in the future.

Increased internal migration: The level of development of origin is the main factor in population migration, and therefore, in provinces with higher levels of development, urbanization and immigration rates are higher (61 per cent of the provinces of the country are sending migrants).

Increased literacy and level of education: The literacy rate and the share of population with university education in recent years have been increasing.
NUP FORMULATION PROCESS IN I.R. IRAN

1. RESEARCH DESIGN
   - Refining Stakeholders’ Expectations
   - Defining Research Questions
   - Developing Research Methodology
   - Designing Research Framework

2. DATA COLLECTION
   - Relevant documents (national & international)
   - Semi-structured interviews with experts

3. DATA ANALYSIS
   - Qualitative coding (MAXQDA2020)
   - Validating the findings
   - Prioritizing the findings

IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY AREAS IN DEVELOPING NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES & SMART CITY STRATEGY DOCUMENT

POLICY FORMULATION
- Drafting Iran’s National Urban Policies
- Drafting Smart City Strategies
- Designing Action Plans

FINALIZING NUP & SCS DOCUMENT
- Validating the findings (Steering Committee meetings & technical workshops)
- Finalizing & Launching the document

NATIONAL URBAN POLICY & SMART CITY STRATEGY DOCUMENT
• ORGANIZING THE SYSTEM OF CITIES IN THE COUNTRY AND PLANNING FOR A BALANCED NETWORK OF CITIES
• REFORMING THE HIERARCHICAL SYSTEM OF URBAN PROGRAMS AND PLANS
• PROMOTING INTEGRATED APPROACH IN URBAN MANAGEMENT
• IDENTIFYING THE SUSTAINABLE REVENUE SOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES
• PROVIDING ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL CITIZENS
• UPDATING THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND LAND TENURE
• DEFINING THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF NEW TOWNS IN THE SYSTEM OF IRANIAN CITIES
• DEFINING THE METROPOLITAN SCALE IN THE URBAN GOVERNANCE SYSTEM OF IRAN
• REDUCING URBAN POVERTY AND REGIONAL INEQUALITIES AND ORGANIZING THE INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS
• PREPARING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLANS
• PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BASED ON THE LONG-TERM PLANNING APPROACH
• IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL CITIZENS
• IMPROVING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN URBAN POLICY MAKING
NUP BUILDING BLOCKS

GOOD GOVERNANCE

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

SPATIAL SUSTAINABILITY

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

NUP GOALS

- Sustainability of water resources
- Affordable and adequate Housing for all
- Integrated Urban Management
- Reduced urban inequalities and empowered Informal Settlements
- Improved public participation in urban development process
- Adaptation to climate change
- Improve the health of citizens
- A spatially balanced network of sustainable cities across the country
- Financial sustainability of urban economy, municipalities and local governments
- Effective Land Governance System
- Modified Urban Planning System
- Recognition and Definition of Metropolitan governance system
- Sustainable New Towns
NUP1 TRANSITION TO A COHERENT AND INTEGRATED URBAN GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

SP101: Legal reform and deregulation to achieve coherence in urban management legal frameworks
SP102: Promoting the decentralization measures by the central government
SP103: Enabling neighbourhood councils to respond effectively to community concerns
SP104: Improving city council performance in accordance with the city council law
SP105: Improving the effectiveness of the inter-sectoral committees
SP106: Designing various models of urban management in accordance with municipal capacities and size of the cities
SP107: Separating political leadership from specialized management of municipalities, and avoiding non-specialist and discriminatory selection in recruitment
SP108: Developing legal and regulatory frameworks with regard to metropolitan governance (specific institutional and administrative arrangements that function beyond the city boundaries)
SP109: Separation of public duties and responsibilities into national and local departments and assigning local duties to local institutions
SP110: Promoting the mechanisms of transparency and accountability of local and regional governments and fighting against the corruption and information rent in urban management system
SP111: Defining effective systems to monitor and evaluate the implementation of approved plans and programs

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
- Ministry of Interior

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Municipalities
- Supreme Administrative Council

POLICY OUTPUTS:
- Number of tasks assigned by the central government to municipalities
- Number of citizens’ complaints from municipalities and city councils

POLICY IMPACTS:
- Level of citizens’ satisfaction with the performance of municipalities
- Level of transformation of actors’ decisions into operational action

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
- The need to create an inter-sectoral coordination unit for Smart City development
- The necessity for adoption of a transparent and open data-oriented governance

TIME SCALE: Mid-term  DURATION: 3-5 Years  SCALE: National  LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
NUP2: Developing an Integrated Framework for the Urban Planning System in Iran

**SUP201**: Ensuring the multi-level (vertical) and cross-sectoral (horizontal) coordination and cooperation of various influential forces in urban planning process.

**SUP202**: Updating the terms of reference for project services to include the emerging urban concepts and issues.

**SUP203**: Clarifying the authority and duties of the institutions involved in urban planning and policymaking (at all stages from preparation to communication)

**SUP204**: Enabling effective and efficient institutional frameworks by identifying gaps, overlaps, parallel work and conflict of interests of authoritative institutions in the current urban planning system

**SUP205**: Enhancing the agility and adaptability of urban planning practitioners in the application of emerging theories and principles developed by the scientific and academic community

**SUP206**: Strengthening collaboration and investing in human talent and skills to ensure sustainable urban development

**SUP207**: Creating new mechanisms and strengthening the existing mechanisms that include public participation components to facilitate more systematic cooperation and coordination between officials.

**SUP208**: Preparation and implementation of a deconcentration plan for Tehran city-region within the framework of national measures for sustainable urban and regional development of the country

**POLICY INSTRUMENTS**
- Deregulation of actors
- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

**POLICY ACTORS**
- **CORRESPONDING ACTOR**: MoRUD
- **INFLUENT ACTOR(S)**: Ministry of Interior, Municipalities, Islamic Consultative Assembly, Private sector, Professional body

**POLICY OUTPUTS**: Level of employment opportunities for urban planners in the public and private sectors, Metropolises with independent urban policy and planning authority

**POLICY IMPACTS**: Level of citizen’s satisfaction, The level of compliance of urban development plans with relevant to global elated agendas and conventions, Feasibility of urban plans

**TIME SCALE**: Long-term, **DURATION**: 5-10 Years, **SCALE**: Local/National, **LEVEL**: Governance/Managerial

**SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS**
- The need for incorporating smart city development approach in Iran’s planning system and procedures, such as developing and using digital twin for cities
SP301: Establishing Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) as catalysts between the public and decision-makers
SP302: Adoption and implementation of action plans for facilitating public participation during planning, approval and implementation of urban development plans and programs
SP303: Inclusion of neighbourhood councils in the budget planning process (participatory budgeting)
SP304: Updating the public participation ordinance for local governments, including written guidelines for various participation options
SP305: Supplementing traditional forms of participation with modern tools, to encourage innovation without isolating or excluding citizens engaged with traditional modes of participation
SP306: Consider adopting the “Citizen’s Planning Bill of Rights” to empower community members to participate early in the planning process and protect their right to shape the future of their communities
SP307: Raising citizens’ awareness and educating them on their rights and responsibilities concerning the local government and the decision-making process
SP308: Implementation of effective communication strategies to share information, experience and practices among local communities and including all groups of the society, including various age, sex, ethnic groups in the dialogue with the local government
SP309: Establishment of an urban data-sharing platform to provide open access to the urban data and city development plans and programmes

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
• Infrastructure development (ICT, …)
• Legal reform and deregulation
• Capacity building
• Information and education
• Inducements

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
• MoRUD
INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
• Ministry of Interior
• Municipalities
• City Councils

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
• Quantity of NGOs associated with the field of urban development

POLICY IMPACTS:
• Level of citizen participation in urban decisions
• Number of citizens’ complaints to judicial authorities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
• The necessity for effective social and institutional participation through smart and digital strategies
• The need for adequate recognition of the societal priorities through smart and transparent methods

TIME SCALE: Long-term
DURATION: 5-10 Years
SCALE: Local/National
LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
NUP4 EMPLOYING EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO FOSTER
CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

SP401: Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into the urban development plans
SP402: Encouraging and supporting the development of local plans and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emission
SP403: Making Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) compulsory prior to the approval and implementation of urban development plans
SP404: Developing guidelines on multi-hazard assessment of public infrastructure and amenities of cities
SP405: Ensuring that urban development laws and regulations, and building codes and standards are consistent with climate change adaptation strategies
SP406: Implementing sustainable urban waste management plans through a multi-stakeholder partnership (government, non-government, and private actors)
SP407: Promoting compact urban development and urban densification/re-utilization and preventing urban sprawl
SP408: Developing climate-responsive urban design guidelines according to the various geo-climatic conditions of Iranian cities (e.g. development of green infrastructure, implementing NBS in public spaces, etc.)
SP409: Identifying the local capacities to strengthen the decentralized energy production network and projecting attractive incentives to encourage use of renewable sources of energy in building design
SP410: Improving sustainable mobility options by planning for pedestrian and bike routes, in particular in small and middle-sized cities
SP411: Strengthening environmental diplomacy and facilitating knowledge transfer from countries that are facing similar conditions as Iran in regards with the impacts of climate change
SP412: Knowledge improvement and capacity building among the citizens, in particular the children, for their ecological footprint and its impact on climate change
SP413: Decentralizing national level funds and facilitating local governments to utilize technical capacities and resources for climate change adaptation and resilience building in their communities

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Infrastructure development
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Taxes and surcharges
- Contract with NGOs

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
- Ministry of Energy

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Department of Environment
- Municipalities
- MoRUD
- Supreme Water Council
- Supreme Environmental Council

POLICY OUTPUTS:
- Establishment of municipal waste recycling organizations
- Rate of reduction of private car usage
- Rate of reduction of energy usage

POLICY IMPACTS:
- Level of pollution
- Energy efficiency of the economy
- CO2 emissions by cities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
- The possibility of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and global warming through smart solutions
- The possibility of better responding to climate changes, and fostering livability and sustainable lifestyle through smart initiatives and innovations
NUP5 REVISION OF HOUSING PLANNING SYSTEM FOR A BALANCED HOUSING MARKET THAT LEADS TO AFFORDABLE AND ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL

SP501: Discouraging low-density housing construction at the periphery by adopting a development tax or impact fees that internalize the real cost of sprawl for developers
SP502: Reforming the spatial planning system for better utilization of land and housing market that meets the needs of middle and low-income groups
SP503: Developing new methods of housing finance such as financing on the supply side (land and building fund and building pre-sale) and financing on the demand side (Primary mortgage market and secondary mortgage market)
SP504: Designing fiscal incentives to foster affordable quality housing
SP505: Enabling private investment in informal settlements through the potential of community finance
SP506: Facilitating the private-sector investments in urban regeneration projects
SP507: Strengthening national data systems to identify taxable properties and assess property values
SP508: Integrating housing programmes in urban and regional development plans
SP509: Providing regulations and guidelines with regard to Iranian-Islamic architectural design and in response to the specific circumstances and characteristics of various regions
SP510: Developing and promoting cities’ initiatives through exchange of experiences, transfer of know-how and implementation of joint projects
SP511: Developing green building standards and introducing the green building certification system to the construction industry

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Subsidies or tax incentives
- Loans and financial facilities
- Contract with private sector and NGOs

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR: MoRUD
INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Ministry of Interior
- Supreme Council of Planning and Architecture

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
- Growth rate of housing and renting prices
- Affordability ratios
- Rooms per person
- Numbers of homeless people, Number of built housing units

POLICY IMPACTS:
- Level of life expectancy
- Housing Satisfaction

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
- The need for building smart homes to reach a higher quality of life
- The importance of creating an online database and intelligent systems regarding the economic, financial and legal dimensions of housing
- Paying attention to reducing the inequality and digital gap in accessing smart technologies and infrastructure in the urban neighbourhoods

TIME SCALE: Long-term  DURATION: 5-10 Years  SCALE: National  LEVEL: Governance
NUP6 SPATIAL PLANNING FOR A BALANCED NETWORK OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES

SP601: Improving the cohesion of the spatial structure of the country through a polycentric network of cities
SP602: Strengthening the role and functional capacities of middle-sized cities to prevent migration to large and overpopulated centres
SP603: Limiting the population and physical growth of mother cities in metropolitan areas of the country
SP604: Strengthening and improving the performance of large cities as the partners of metropolises
SP605: Defining the urban – carrying capacities according to the environmental conditions
SP606: Enhancing the position of the Supreme Council of Urban Planning and Architecture in urban policymaking in regard to the spatial development of the country
SP607: Promoting Inclusive approach in public space planning and design
SP608: Improving the identity of urban areas according to the specific conditions of each city
SP609: Emphasizing the application of infill development and prevention of urban sprawl
SP610: Developing land use regulations for the areas outside the urban growth boundary
SP611: Promoting coordination between the development of populations and activity centres with public transportation system
SP612: Promoting fluid and mixed land use planning in cities
SP613: Observing passive defence considerations in planning population and activity centres
SP614: Taking into consideration natural and man-made disasters in accommodating population and services
SP615: Improving the linkages and interactions between rural-urban areas (Urban-rural linkage)
SP616: Strengthening country’s linkage to the international transportation networks

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
- Deregulation of actors
- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Municipalities
- Ministry of Interior
- Planning and Budget Organization

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
- The number of cities with up-to-date urban plans
- Urban Rank-Size index

POLICY IMPACTS:
- Environmental Performance Index (EPI)
- Level of life expectancy
- Quality of Life index

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
- The need for creating balance in the country’s urban system by developing remote smart services
- Possibility of improving environmental quality and urban sustainability through smart developments

TIME SCALE: Long-term  DURATION: 5-10 Years  SCALE: National  LEVEL: Governance
SP701: Improving the effectiveness of land management system through updating rules, laws, and regulations
SP702: Provide access to digital cadastre and land registry through the internet in Iran (Increasing transparency)
SP703: Revising and updating the property rights
SP704: Developing the mortgage finance
SP705: Capacity building and financial provision for effective land administration
SP706: Increasing civic engagement and public participation in land governance through improved access to information
**NUP8** **IMPROVING THE URBAN ECONOMY AND ENSURING SUSTAINABLE REVENUE SOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

**SP801:** Updating the rules and regulations regarding the promotion of the role of municipalities in the planning and management of the local economy

**SP802:** Integration of local economy planning into the urban development planning

**SP803:** Establishment of national and regional observatories for urban economy monitoring with focus on competitiveness, business ease and urban prosperity

**SP804:** Approving the law on sustainable revenue sources for municipalities according to the specific circumstances of cities.

**SP805:** Adaptation and modification of the revenue and expenditure coding system of municipalities in accordance with international standards

**SP806:** Improving access to external finance including: Legal bottlenecks to borrowing at the city level, achieving creditworthiness, reducing investment risk, municipal bonds versus loans, public-private partnerships, pooled financing and financial intermediaries

**SP807:** Enabling legal framework to improve ways in which public sector can capture land value gains and other revenues

**SP808:** Support intermediary financial institutions such as municipal development banks and fund

**SP809:** Support national governments to incite local governments to fully leverage their existing tax authority by associating transfers and local revenue, and increase transparency through national Government data and reporting requirements

**SP810:** Designing local financial instruments for urban regeneration projects

**SP811:** Establishing mechanisms for compensating for government exemptions in the form of annual budgets and other laws of Iran

**SP812:** Developing legal mechanisms for deducting areas of executive bodies by the management organization and deposit it in the account of the municipalities

**SP813:** Developing comprehensive financial planning and policy (revenue and expenditure) in municipalities by short-term, medium-term and long-term

**SP814:** Creating technical and legal readiness in municipalities and upgrading their credit rating in order to connect with transnational financial markets and benefit from foreign investment in the urban development sector

**SP815:** Designing and establishing a system for calculating and paying electronically and online all municipal tolls and legal funds

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<th><strong>POLICY INSTRUMENTS</strong></th>
<th><strong>POLICY ACTORS</strong></th>
<th><strong>POLICY OUTPUTS</strong></th>
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| • Legal reform and deregulation  
• Enactment of new rules  
• Training of public managers  
• Capacity building  
• Contract with private sector  
• Loans and financial facilities | **CORRESPONDING ACTOR:**  
• Ministry of Interior | • Per capita budget and revenue of metropolitan municipalities  
• Own-source revenue of municipalities  
• Urban gross production  
• Foreign investment in cities |

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| **INFLUENT ACTOR(S):**  
• MoRUD  
• Planning and Budget Organization  
• Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance  
• Municipalities | • Urban competitiveness ranking  
• Prosperity Index  
• Urban productivity indicator  
• Urban poverty level |

**SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS**

• The need for increased transparency in economic decision making through smart development strategies
• The possibility of activating the capacities of the smart knowledge-based urban economy
• The necessity of facilitating businesses through smart innovations and services
• Supporting the development of smart platforms for cities’ financial affairs

**TIME SCALE:** Long-term  
**DURATION:** 5-10 Years  
**SCALE:** Local/ National  
**LEVEL:** Governance/Managerial
PROBLEM
Expanding informal settlements and increasing urban poverty

POLICY GOAL
Reduced urban inequalities and empowered informal settlements

POLICY OBJECTIVES
091: Reduced spatial inequality and urban poverty in different parts of the country
092: Preventing further growth of informal settlements
093: Improved life conditions in informal settlements and dysfunctional urban areas

NUP9 PREVENTING THE EXPANSION OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS AND UPGRADING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN VULNERABLE URBAN AREAS

SP901: Coordination and coherence among the local and national governance to prevent the expansion of informal settlements
SP902: Identifying and categorising informal settlements in various cities and proposing upgrading strategies accordingly
SP903: Reducing land acquisition cost and housing price to discourage the growth of informal land and housing market
SP904: Reducing discrimination in access to subsidized land and housing
SP905: Criminalization of violations of urban planning and unplanned constructions
SP906: Revision of the spatial planning system for the better utilization of the land and housing market and to meet the needs of middle and low-income groups.
SP907: Undertaking necessary legal reform for clarifying the ownership rights of the dwellers of informal settlements
SP908: Improving the living conditions of low-income groups through the provision of basic services and in situ development of informal settlements
SP909: Empowering the low-income groups through community development and encouraging their participation in decision-making processes
SP910: Providing entrepreneurship development and service centres, women employment opportunities, and workspace for entrepreneurs, microcredit systems for inhabitants of informal settlements

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
• Infrastructure development
• Provision
• Direct services
• Legal reform and deregulation
• Capacity building
• Information and education
• Loans and financial facilities
• Insurances
• Contract with private sector and NGOs

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR: MoRUD
INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
• Ministry of Interior
• Planning and Budget Organization
• Municipalities

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
• Number of inhabitants of informal settlements and poor urban areas
• The share of government subsidies for low-income groups
• The share of public budget for informal settlement

POLICY IMPACTS:
• Level of residential satisfaction in vulnerable urban areas

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
• The necessity of reducing the digital gap between dysfunctional and privileged urban neighborhoods
• The need to empower the local economy through smart innovations in dysfunctional and informal urban settlements
• The need for improving liveability and quality of life through smart solutions

TIME SCALE: Long-term | DURATION: 5-10 Years | SCALE: Local/National | LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
NUP10 DEFining the Metropolitan Governance Concept in Iran’s Urban Planning System

SP1001. Providing legal, regulatory and/or guideline support with regard to metropolitan governance, in particular for Tehran Metropolitan Region (TMR)
SP1002. Defining mandates and institutional arrangements of metropolitan governance
SP1003. Developing sustainable financial management strategies for metropolitan governance
SP1004. Evolution of the existing legal basis for supervising and controlling the development of rural settlements by villages located within metropolitan regions without the intervention of urban management
SP1005. Improving the coordination and cooperation among the local actors of metropolitan regions
SP1006. Matching managerial and political divisions and resolving territorial disputes in metropolitan regions
SP1007. Rearranging the functions of central government and local government in urban and suburban areas
SP1008. Revival of the Tehran City Development Supervision Law and expansion of the scope of action of the Supervisory Council to the entire metropolitan area of Tehran
SP1009: Preventing the existing policy on the establishment of new municipalities in metropolitan regions and simultaneously pursuing the approach of reducing the number of existing municipalities (reducing the managerial fragmentation)

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
• Deregulation of actors
• Training of public managers
• Legal reform and deregulation
• Enactment of new rules

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR: Ministry of Interior
INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
• MoRUD
• Municipalities
• Islamic Consultative Assembly

POLICY OUTPUTS:
• Frequency of voluntary cooperation agreements between municipalities in metropolitan areas
• Number of NGOs in urban issues

POLICY IMPACTS:
• Productivity and economic growth of metropolitan regions
• Number of public private partnership (PPP) contracts

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
• The need for changing the planning and management system to facilitate the realization of smart developments at the metropolitan level

TIME SCALE: Long-term | DURATION: 5-10 Years | SCALE: National | LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
NUP11 TRANSITION TOWARDS URBAN WATER SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH AN INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (IWRM) APPROACH

SP1101: Considering availability of water as an essential measure to regulate demography and economy across the country, and avoiding the projection of inter-basin water transfer projects

SP1102: Directing urban and industrial projects, which require high amount of water, to the coastal strips, and avoiding water transfer projects over long distances and among various internal water basins

SP1103: Developing multi-functional and connected green and blue spaces (green areas, urban parks, urban forests, water channels, streams, etc.) inside and around the cities

SP1104: Promoting water-wise and water smart techniques in planning and design of public spaces

SP1105: Make use of Nature-Based Solutions to manage storm water and surface runoff and to improve the liveability of urban areas

SP1106: Integrating Blue-Green infrastructure in urban water management systems of Iranian cities

SP1107: Reducing direct water consumption through raising citizens’ awareness about their consumption habits

SP1108: Developing design regulations and guidelines on promoting the construction of water-efficient buildings, including harvesting and reusing rainwater and reusing greywater use for non-potable purposes

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Information and education
- Capacity building
- Loans and financial facilities
- Taxes and surcharges

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
- Ministry of Energy

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Department of Environment
- MoRUD
- Supreme Council of Water

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
- Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100) in the cities of Iran

POLICY IMPACTS:
- The number of Water-stressed cities
- Level of water pollution in metropolitan cities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
- The need for establishing intelligent and integrated water monitoring and management systems
- The need for applying water-wise and water-smart technologies

TIME SCALE: Long-term  DURATION: 5-10 Years  SCALE: National  LEVEL: Governance / Managerial
PROBLEM
Continuation of business-as-usual in new town development within the last 40 years

POLICY GOAL
Sustainable new towns

POLICY OBJECTIVES
0121: Defined role of new towns in the Iranian cities’ network
0122: Improvement of liveability, identity and sense of community in new towns

NUP12 RETHINKING THE ROLE OF NEW TOWNS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AND SMART DEVELOPMENT

SP1201: Giving the priority to organizing and upgrading the existing new towns, rather than developing a new generation of new towns
SP1202: Changing the “business as usual” approach in planning new towns and emphasizing on their role in the system of Iranian cities
SP1203: Employing new and innovative methodologies in locating, planning and design of new towns
SP1204: Planning to promote identity and culture in new towns in order to achieve an inclusive city and improve the sense of community among the inhabitants
SP1205: Paying attention to liveability and environmental quality of new towns
SP1206: Planning for sustainable transportation systems and promoting green mobility (walking and biking) in new towns
SP1207: Paying attention to environmental safety and crisis management against natural and man-made disasters
SP1208: Developing a system to monitored and evaluate the urban conditions during and after the implementation
SP1209: Strengthening the economic diversification of new towns

POLICY INSTRUMENTS
• Infrastructure development (ICT, …)
• Capacity building
• Legal reform and deregulation
• Loans and financial facilities

POLICY ACTORS
CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
• MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
• Ministry of Interior
• Municipalities
• Iran New Towns Development Company

POLICY EVALUATION
POLICY OUTPUTS:
• Number of constructed houses in new towns
• The share of new town’s population in the country

POLICY IMPACTS:
• Urban gross production
• Level of residential satisfaction in new towns
• Quality of life in new towns

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS
• Using the capacity of smart city strategies in reviewing the role and status of Iran’s new cities (e.g. using abandoned urban spaces and infrastructures; responding to existing problems and challenges; relying smart innovations as drivers of development, etc.)

TIME SCALE: Long-term
DURATION: 5-10 Years
SCALE: National
LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
PROBLEM

The necessity to improve the health of citizens

POLICY GOAL

Improved health of the Iranian population

POLICY OBJECTIVES

0131: Building healthy cities and communities
0132: Building capacity through research and evaluation of health inequalities in human settlements

NUP13 IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL CITIZENS

SP1301: Integrating community health programmes in urban development plans
SP1302: Providing public spaces to create opportunities for gathering and socializing to reduce psychological distress and depression
SP1303: Promoting healthy lifestyle by improving the pedestrian- and bike-friendly urban environments
SP1304: Providing opportunities for recreational walking and physical activities in neighbourhoods, with special attention to children and elderly
SP1305: Improving walking, biking, and public transportation access and connections to neighbourhood parks and playgrounds
SP1306: Engaging local communities in the planning, creation, and maintenance of parks to encourage their regular use of the green space
SP1307: Increasing the green space per capita in Iranian cities in line with the international standards
SP1308: Integrating the concept of play streets in urban regeneration projects to provide children play areas in vulnerable communities
SP1309: Encouraging greater use of trees, landscaping, and engaging natural features in urban regeneration projects
SP1310: Improving access to public sport facilities and health-hubs in cities
SP1311: Building capacity among the community members, especially those with health disparities and other disadvantages, through programmes that build skills and connections such as trainings and volunteer programs
SP1312: Raising public awareness about the healthy community through strategies like clean-up days, special events, interactive games, etc.
SP1313: Preventing the use of hazardous materials in building industry
SP1314: Preparing the air quality action plan for metropolitan areas

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Insurances
- Infrastructure development
- Provision
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Direct services

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:
- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):
- Municipalities
- Ministry of Interior

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:
- The average number of days with healthy air in the country’s metropolises

POLICY IMPACTS:
- Level of residential satisfaction with Health Service
- Level of annual deaths due to air pollution

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Using smart technologies in promoting green and active transportation
- Facilitating the use of smart health-related databases and platforms in urban decision-making and policy making
- The possibility of optimal management of public health and the consequences of infectious diseases through smart strategies

TIME SCALE: Long-term
DURATION: 5–10 Years
SCALE: Local/National
LEVEL: Governance/Managerial
POLICY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT

Participation: Establish communication between the institutions, professionals and the public

Data & Transparency: More equipment and scope in creating data and statistical transparency and various rules and executive measures

Urban Governance & Management: Specialization and use of new technologies; cross-sectoral cooperation in use of advanced technologies

Strategy, Policy-making & Flexibility: Awareness of the latest technical and professional achievements

Innovation, Technology, Research & Development: Further expansion and efficiency of research centers with the use of new smart technologies

Economy & Investment: Paying attention to urban awareness programs and paving the way for the use of advanced economic models & moderation

General Infrastructure: Equipping cities with advanced and creative public infrastructure in line with capacity and foresight

Geography, Urbanism & New Developments: Establishment of technical and engineering equipment, wide smart management domains, and smart urban planning

Energy & Environment: Preservation of the environment in accordance with the sustainable development principles and goals

Digital Gap: Balancing access to services for different population groups and different social and economic sectors

Urbanisation Challenges: Access to statistics and information; awareness of the latest natural, social and economic changes

Sustainable & Resilient Development: Create a certain level of knowledge and skills; increase the speed of responding to the problems